
Skill Procedures:

Unsynchronized Manual Defibrillation



I. Usage

1. Unsynchronized manual defibrillation is utilized when a patient presents in cardiac arrest with an EKG of ventricular fibrillation or ventricular tachycardia. This Protocol describes the procedures for manual defibrillation. Refer to the appropriate Cardiac Arrest Treatment Protocol for specific treatment modalities.

II. Procedural Protocols

1. The patient should be in a safe environment prior to defibrillation.



Note Well: *The patient and rescuer should not be in a water source nor should the patient and rescuer be on a metal surface.*

2. Select the appropriate energy level.
 - A. Refer to the appropriate Cardiac Emergencies Protocol.
3. Ensure that the electrodes are placed properly on the patient.



Note Well: *If utilizing hand held paddles, apply firm pressure on each paddle.*

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II. Procedural Protocols (continued)

4. Ensure no personnel are in contact with the patient.
 - A. Discontinue ventilations and CPR during the defibrillation process.



Note Well: *The provider delivering the charge is responsible for ensuring all personnel are clear of the patient prior to discharging the paddles.*

5. Deliver the electrical charge by depressing both discharge buttons simultaneously.
6. If any form of rhythm returns, check for a pulse and refer to the appropriate treatment protocol.